

## Farm Notes.

### CARE OF HORSES' FEET.

In Winter and Spring horses that work outdoors should have their legs thoroughly cleaned every night. If they do not receive this care they will probably suffer from sore heels, a disease showing that closing the pores of the skin has poisoned the blood, and which like poisoning the blood in human beings, is much more easily prevented than cured.

### ANIMALS WITH YOUNG.

Farm stock, mares, cows or ewes, bearing young will need extra care and feed from now until their young are dropped. It is not best that breeding stock shall be fattened; but their appetite will improve, showing the demand which nature makes for maturing the fetus. The food, however, should include plenty of flesh and bone-forming material, and less of that whose use is to fatten.

### SECURING CLEAN SEED.

With a little care and inquiry among farmers in Winter it is generally easy to get seed free from foul stuff for Spring sowing. Every farmer owes it to himself to sow only pure seed, for only by so doing can he have any hope of harvesting a good crop. There is also some advantage in getting seed away from the farm where it is to be sown, rather than that grown on the farm itself. A change of soil, especially from a lighter to a heavier one, generally improves the quality of the product.

### LOCATING AN ORCHARD.

If an orchard is to be planted in the Spring it is important to secure a good location. The small trees should not be placed where they will become unsightly, as they grow larger. Often a fine prospect is destroyed by putting an orchard in front of the house. But in the rear of farm buildings, especially on the windward side, an orchard is invaluable as a windbreak. The barns, corn crib and pigsty should also be placed in the rear of dwellings, that the manure may be more convenient to the orchard than to any other part of the farm, and also that the orchard may be a pig run during the season of fruiting.

### WINTER MADE BUTTER.

It is possible to make a good Winter butter as can be made at any season if food and other conditions are all right. If it lacks in color the defect may be remedied by feeding roots with Indian corn meal. The flavor of butter in Winter is affected by the poor quality of hay often fed to cows. The best is reserved for horses, while the cow is given what has been stained or otherwise injured by exposure. Cornstalks make generally better butter than timothy or clover hay. The finest flavor is imparted by sweet-scented vernal grass, some seed of which should be sown with all seedlings intended for cows, either as pasture or for hay.

### REGRAFTING ORCHARDS.

Much lack of progress in farming is the result of what natural philosophers would call the power of *inertia*, or in other words the tendency of matter to remain in one place. Farmers deal more with this inert matter than any other class. Knowing what needs to be done is one thing, but doing it, which requires hard work, is quite another. In nothing is this neglect of what should be done more striking than the almost universal tendency to let poor or unproductive trees remain year after year without taking the slight trouble required to re-graft them with better sorts. It is no serious evil if a tree has been grown to bearing age with some worthless variety. Regrafting will in three to five years make a new top often more productive than the tree would have been had the better variety been put in originally. It costs considerable to have such work done by professional grafters at from 1½ to 2½ cents per graft. At such rates an active man with an assistant to saw off the limbs will make five or six or even more dollars per day. But the operation of grafting is so simple that any tree owner can easily learn it, and by knowing the habit of growth of the sort to be put in he can easily make the topgrafted into any shape that he desires. When he stops to consider this point the owner of an orchard will soon learn to top graft his trees more to his own satisfaction than will be done by the average grafter, chiefly

anxious to make a large day's work by putting in as many grafts as possible.

### NEGLECTED FIELDS.

There are on every farm some parts that have always received less manure and less care every way than has been given to the farm generally. They frequently comprise the fields remote from the barnyard, and to which for this reason it is difficult to draw manure. The time for this work is generally limited, and the amount drawn in a day when the distance is doubled is so reduced that the work is stopped, and plowing and seeding takes the time of teams and men. The result is that despite the most strenuous efforts fields remote from the barnyard never get as much manure as those near by. In some cases the neglected field is too wet for profitable cropping. But whatever the cause of neglect, it is time that it should cease. Even at a low valuation for the land it locks up too much capital for which its owner gets no return. If he lacks money to make this land productive, he had better sell it and use it improving the land that remains. Some one is always ready to buy the poorest land and to pay more for it than it is worth. In fact, selling the poorest part of the farm is commonly the very best thing that can be done with it. If its owner concentrates labor, time and manure on his worst land he can only do it by neglect of his best, from which alone he is sure of a profit. There is a reason for the neglect of cultivation of fields that have been ready for the plow a long time, and it is usually found in the fact that experience has proved that it does not pay.

### CARE OF SWINE.

If in the management of our pigs we are induced to follow nature as closely as is consistent with modern stock raising, we can at least have the satisfaction of knowing that we have done our duty. If we give them all the solid comforts of life, and leave off the luxuries, give them liberty and plenty of range, give them all the green food that nature provides for them, give them an abundance of oats while growing, and only sufficient corn for a change of grain; supply them with the fruit of the orchard and with all the wholesome garden truck that can be spared; if we keep them well salted, well slopped and well watered; if they are fed regularly and evenly; if they are well sheltered from cold rains and excessive heat; if they are not given too free a run to stubble fields and green corn; if they are closely watched in order that their appetites may be studied and catered to; if, in fact, we abandon many of the old ruts in feed and management no doubt we shall receive better compensation for our trouble, both as to health of our pigs and quality of their flesh.—*The Hog.*

### THE PECAN NUT.

The pecan is one of the most remunerative crops a farmer can produce. Young man, plant a pecan grove, and it will support you in your old age and enable you to pass the evening of your life in luxury, free from the toil and care necessary to the ordinary callings. E. T. Hollister Rural World: It is a rather rosy picture, and one, we should think, which would have considerable fascination for a young man. We hardly believe that it is overdrawn, for the possibilities of the pecan are great.

Two years ago, before the then Mississippi Valley, now American, Horticultural Society, T. V. Munson of Texas called attention to orchard culture of the pecan as a source of profit. He stated that thirty-three pounds of cured nuts make a bushel. "An orchard tree of fifteen years," said he, "should produce from three to five bushels of nuts, making an income of from \$15 to \$20, wholesale. The possessor of a large orchard in bearing would have an investment equal if not superior to that in government bonds, and far more suitable as an heirloom to his children." Dr. Mahr also spoke before the society in '83, mentioning the culture of the pecan as a source of profit.

Prof. Munson thinks that the pecan transplants with great difficulty and should be transplanted at one year old. We will only repeat that all nut trees can be transplanted with perfect safety, provided they are nursery-grown and treated with proper care.—*Orchard and Garden.*

## SOME PLAIN AND SENSIBLE TALK.

Men who are asking for higher salaries ought to converse a while with some of the farmers of this section. Reduce the taxes for every thing except education. The average farmer, who is the main stay of the country, has never before seen the wolf so near his door. But this sad condition has been brought upon the farmers because they have refused to think, because they have rejected the means of success. Every intelligent farmer knows that he ought to study his farm with as much diligence and patience as the studious lawyer does his brief, or the genuine chemist his formulas. The most important pursuit in the land is gone about with that judgment, prudence and interest, that are almost a disgrace to our civilization. Farmers are behind every other class of workers, they know it. The other classes stand aloof and pile the burden of taxation upon them. The best genius and talent of our country will not go to the field. All this is radically wrong. In their hours of adversity, the farmers are calling a halt.

We have seen more farmers this year with a disposition to learn something. Many of them are at their row's end. They have planted cotton and given mortgages until they have almost reduced themselves to the servitude of so many galley slaves. We do not believe we would be in error in saying that three-fourths of the real estate in Moore county is under mortgage. So great is the indebtedness that one of our merchants remarked that he hadn't looked in the face of a man for a month who did not owe him something. (Of course he meant the persons who dealt with him.) There is no healthy growth among a people in such a condition. Call a halt all along the lines, farmers; organize clubs, invite new ideas, seek reforms, create interest in your work. A healthy and prosperous agriculture must underlie the prosperity and development of any great country. Half fed and half clothed men are fit for neither heaven nor earth, and every farmer in debt is haunted with the ghost of Shylock, who invites him to dishonesty and disgrace.

We invite discussion from our farmers upon their individual work. Here is a question, and who will be the first farmer to answer it in a short article. How can our farmers diversify their crops (we mean plant less cotton and more of the grains, &c.) and lighten the present financial embarrassment? Here is another, is there a farmers' club in the county, and if so, where, what is it doing? Some more. How many farmers will write to Col. L. L. Polk of Winston, N. C., to help them organize clubs at McGilvary's school house, Carabonton, McRae's school house, McLeod's school house, Cool Spring (M. E.) church, Carthage, Union Church, Cameron, Jonesboro and Sanford. Other counties and sections are moving; what say you? Gentlemen, fall into ranks for the rebellion against brute force and bad judgment. Two or three more years like the two just past, without a change in your tactics will dispossess many of you of your homes and farms.—*Central Express.*

### FARM TRAINED BOYS.

The best men come from the plow, for farming, slavish as it is called, trains men to industry, to work long hours, and the faculty of sticking to a thing until it is done. Farming is the one occupation that calls a man's whole being into use; his muscles to even, systematic labor, his brain to devise and meet emergencies, and his cleverness in half-dozen crafts, of tinkering, building, pruning, doctoring sick cattle, ruling hired hands, and administering his republic of acres generally. It is a business that must be thoroughly done as far as it goes. Shirking can't be allowed, short of being sold out by the sheriff. A man or a boy can't sit dawdling behind a plow, or a reaper, or a berry basket as he can on a big stool behind a desk. He can't drop work and run to town to attend circus or see the "Mikado" in corn-planting time, and have the first ears of the season just the same. In farming, to-morrow is not just as good as to-day, or next week the same as the week before, for the seasons keep crowding up, month by month, and day by day, till one learns to put his heart in his work and jump to keep ahead of it. A boy well trained for

farming, intelligibly, can turn his hand to other business far better than any business man can learn farming. Farming, rightly considered, is an all-round business, that makes the most of a man, and if the farm training school for boys takes hold of its work right it will be the best institution for the coming America yet started.—*Susan Power.*

### RELIEF FOR CHOKING COW.

A choking cow can often be relieved by pouring cold water in its ear. Take cold water in a piteher or teapot, turn the animal's head to one side and pour a good stream directly into the ear. This will cause the cow to jump and shake its head fiercely and the jerking motion will often dislodge the obstruction. The idea is to make the animal make an effort to free itself. The general practice of pushing the obstruction down the throat or crushing it gives the animal no chance to help itself. A good syringe would be the best thing to force water into the ear with, but few families have one ready for use, so the common teapot will answer.—*Farmer's Wife in Farmer's Review.*

### CONSUMPTION OF MEAT IN THE WORLD.

According to computations recently made by an economist, M. Lamas, there are on the surface of the globe 47,500,000 head of cattle and 105,000,000 of sheep. Europe and Algeria provide 25,000,000 of cattle and 50,000,000 of sheep; Australia, New Zealand and the Cape, 2,500,000 cattle and 20,000,000 sheep; the United States and Canada 9,375,000 cattle and 9,750,000 sheep; the Argentine Republic and Uruguay 6,000,000 cattle and 24,000,000 sheep; Central America 4,250,000 cattle and 1,250,000 sheep. Having allowed a percentage for the reproduction of the species, Lamas fixes the yearly consumption of beef at 17,483,000,000 lbs. (slightly over 800,000 tons), and of mutton at 23,259,000,000 lbs. (slightly over 1,000,000 tons).

Comparing these figures with the population in the five great groups into which he has divided the cattle and sheep world, M. Lamas finds that every inhabitant of Plata has 353½ lbs. of beef and 123½ lbs. of mutton at his disposal each year. In the United States and Canada it is 50½ lbs. of beef and 4½ lbs. of mutton; in Central America, 31 lbs. of beef and slightly over ½ lb. of mutton.

In the Argentine Republic 132½ lbs. of meat are eaten per head annually, and 344 lbs. per head exported. In Australia a similar quantity is consumed, and 123 lbs. exported per head. In the United States nearly 15½ lbs. of foreign meat is required to meet the annual consumption of 114½ lbs. per head. The average consumption in Europe is 39½ lbs. per head, whilst 21.5 lbs. is imported per head.—*Iron.*

### IMPROVED BLOODED STOCK.

Henderson is becoming quite a centre for improved blooded stock as regards cattle. Several months ago a nucleus was formed by Col. Burgwyn by the purchase of a thoroughbred registered Jersey cow, since which time he has made other purchases. The Henderson Jersey Cattle Club, composed of Messrs. J. R. Young, W. E. Gray, S. Watkins and Wm. Buchan, own a fine thoroughbred Jersey bull, "Tar Heel," while the latest importation is Mr. R. L. Daingerfield's Holstein, a beautiful animal and a valuable addition to our stock interests. Mr. S. Watkins has a very fine Jersey cow "Eudina," 6 years old, for which he paid \$235.60. She gives between 4 and 5 gallons of milk a day and the yield of butter is about 10 pounds per week.—*Henderson Gold Leaf.*

### STANDARD WEIGHT OF FOWLS.

All pure bred fowls that have been admitted to the American standard of excellence are required to reach certain weights, and when on exhibition for every pound below these weights, the specimen is cut two points, says the *American Farmer*. A pullet is a female not one year old, a cockrel is a male not one year old, a cock is one year old and over, and a hen is one year old and over. Of the most popular varieties the weights are as follows: Light Brahmas cock, 12 lbs., cockrel 10 lbs., hen 10 lbs., and pullet 8 lbs. Dark Brahmas, cock 11 lbs., cockrel 9 lbs., hen 9 lbs., pullet 7½ lbs. Buff Coch-

ins, cock 11 lbs., cockrel 9 lbs., hen 9 lbs., pullet 7½ lbs. Partridge Cochins, cock 11 lbs., cockrel 9 lbs., hen 9 lbs., pullet 7½ lbs. White Cochins, cock 11 lbs., cockrel 9 lbs., hen 9 lbs., pullet 7½ lbs. Black Cochins, cock 10½ lbs., cockrel 8½ lbs., hen 8½ lbs., pullet 7 lbs. Plymouth Rocks, cock 9½ lbs., cockrel 8½ lbs., hen 8 lbs., pullet 6½ lbs. Wyandottes, cock 8½ lbs., cockrel 7½ lbs., hen 6½ lbs., pullet 5½ lbs. Black Javas, cock 10 lbs., cockrel 8½ lbs., hen 8 lbs., pullet 6½ lbs. Houdans, cock 7½ lbs., cockrel 6½ lbs., hen 6½ lbs., pullet 5½ lbs. The different Bantams run, cocks 26 ounces, cockrel 24 ounces, hen 24 ounces, pullet 22 ounces. Langshans, cock 10 lbs., cockrel 8½ lbs., hen 8½ lbs., pullet 6½ lbs.

The Leghorn family does not come under the weight clause, but the males should weigh about five pounds and the females four, when matured. Some specimens run over these weights, but it is best not to let them go much under.

### RYE AS A SOILING CROP.

Conclusions drawn from experiments at the Pennsylvania State College of Agriculture, in relation to the use of rye as a forage crop for soiling, show: 1. That, so far as the chemical analysis can determine, soiling rye is much inferior to pasture grass as an exclusive feed. 2. Fed with some nitrogenous substance, as malt-sprouts, oil cake, etc., it may in many instances be more profitable on account of its much greater yield. 3. Quite old soiling rye closely resembles the mean of first and second crop hay in composition, but is juicier, and has a yield which is greater by one-half. 4. High manuring produces a crop of better nutritive quality and in very much greater quantity, and no distinction was shown by the cattle fed against the ranker growth.—*Farm, Field and Stockman.*

### WHAT MAN IS COMPOSED OF.

From a chemist's point of view, man—and woman, we suppose—consists of thirteen elements. Five of the constituents are gases and eight are solids. The largest constituent is oxygen, of which the average 154-pound, or eleven-stone man holds 97.20 pounds. The latter, the great supporter of combustion in the human body, exists in a condition of utmost compression. If the ninety-seven pounds of oxygen were set free from the body it would fill a space of 1000 cubic feet. Of hydrogen, the eleven-stone man only holds 15.20 pounds; but if set free, this quantity would expand to 2750 cubic feet. The amount of nitrogen present is 3.80 pounds of chlorine 1.75 pounds, of fluorine 0.22 pounds 3.5 ounces. The above five gases, if set free, would together fill a space of about 4000 cubic feet. Need we be surprised if, with all these gases bottled up within him, even the average man has occasional fits of explosion when things do not happen to go smoothly with him. We might carry speculation further and explain how the different solid elements of the human frame if concentrated, would form various-sized bodies. Suffice to say that the solid constituents comprise carbon, 31.10 pounds; phosphorus, 1.75 pounds; sulphur 0.22 pounds, or 3.5 ounces; besides metals, all base metals or metalloids. There are no precious metals in the human body, and even the baser kinds present are not found in quantities sufficient to offer inducements to mining companies. The most abundant metal is calcium, 3.80 pounds, the basis of lime; next follows potassium, 0.18 pounds or 2.8 ounces; then sodium, 0.16 or 2.4 ounces; then magnesium, 0.11 pounds or 1.0 ounces; and lastly, iron, 0.1 pounds, or, say, 1.1 ounces; grand total, 154 pounds. This, however, is only one way the chemist has of looking at a man. The various elements are chemically combined with each other, forming compounds too numerous to mention, into the nature and composition of which there is no need to enter.—*Age.*

—While cold weather continues all kinds of stock should have plenty of straw for bedding. No animal lacks the sagacity needed to make a good bed for itself, if given plenty of material. It must be remembered that whatever promotes comfort of the stock increases the profits of its owner, aside from the satisfaction of dealing well with dumb animals committed to his charge.